

# OPEN YOUR EYES TO LITTER

## Keeping Our **GREENWAYS** Clean



A fun activity and coloring book  
for kids grades 4-6!

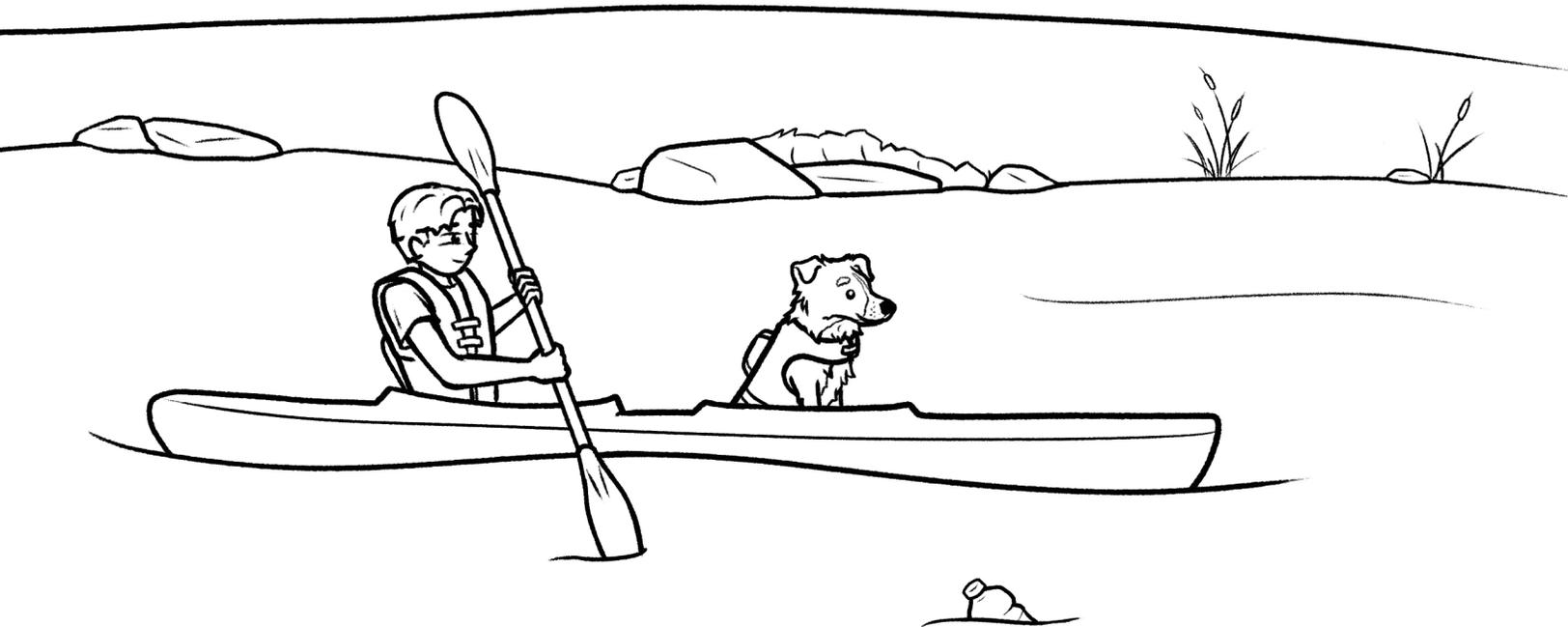
 **Keep  
Pennsylvania  
Beautiful**



**Did you ever take a walk...**



**Or ride a bike...**

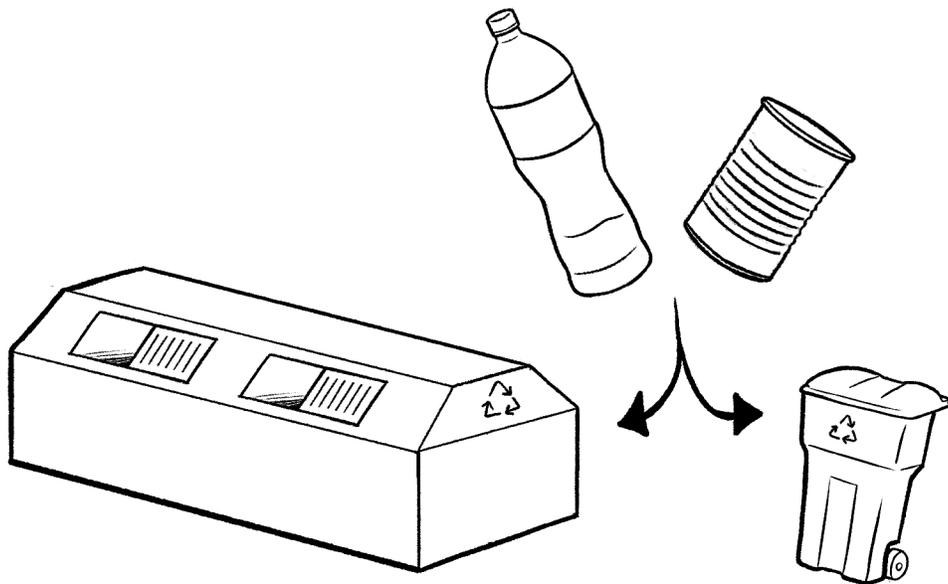


**Or paddle a kayak and find someone else's  
trash in a place it doesn't belong?**

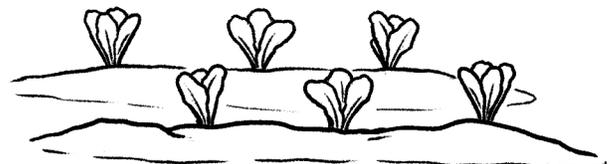
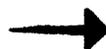
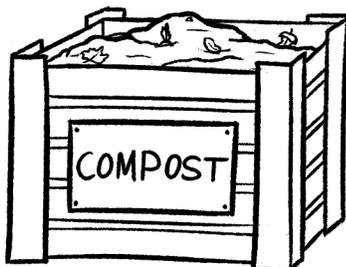
## AT HOME...

Not every piece of trash deserves a one-way ticket to the landfill! Some things, like **cans** and special **plastics**, can be recycled or given a second life. Contact your county **recycling coordinator**, the person who oversees recycling programs, to discover how to recycle or to find a drop-off in your community.

**Be sure to clean all items first!**



**Compostable** materials such as eggshells, grass, coffee grounds and leaves can be put in a compost bin and broken down into useful compost. **Compost helps add nutrients to soil.**



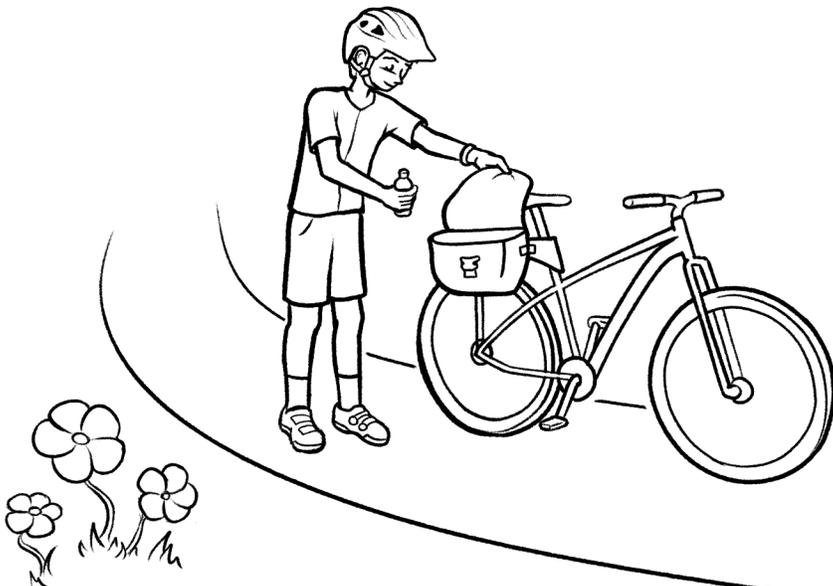
# WE NEED TO LEAVE NO TRACE WHEN OUTDOORS

We must **PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE.**

**CARRY IT IN.  
CARRY IT OUT.**

Leave nothing behind.  
Recycle and dispose of trash  
when you get home.

- Take nothing but pictures
- Use **REUSABLE** water bottles.
- Carry lunch in a nylon pouch
- Put wrappers and left over food back in the pouch and take them with you.



**The Leave No Trace  
Center for Outdoor Ethics**  
is an organization that  
promotes proper  
outdoor ethics worldwide.

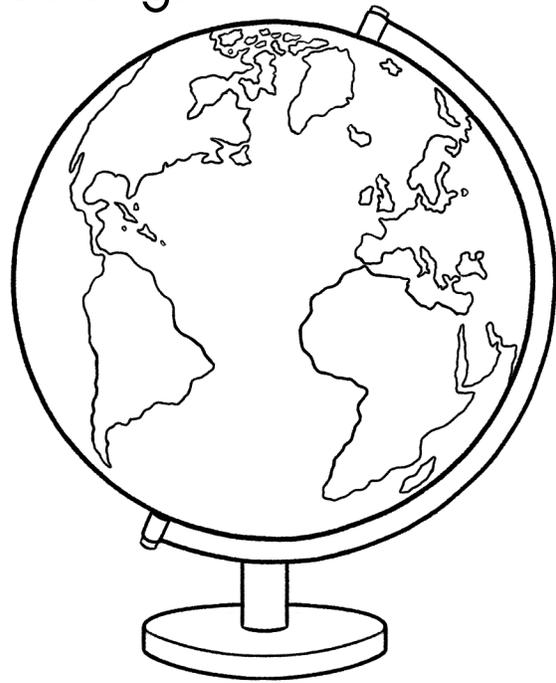
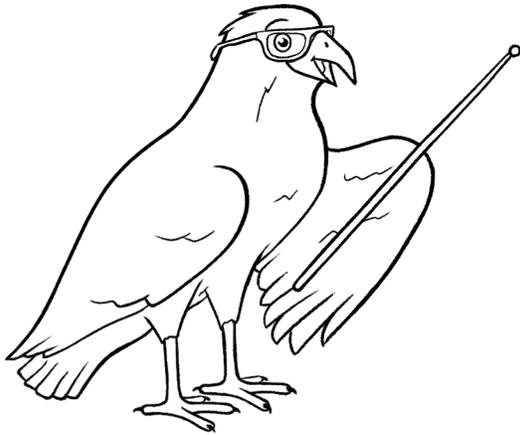
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from the Leave No Trace Center  
for Outdoor Ethics. [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)

For many years **HARD WORKING VOLUNTEERS** have been cleaning up litter and trash all across Pennsylvania. Trash can accumulate or be dumped intentionally. When litter and trash are left behind, wind and other weather conditions can make it worse.

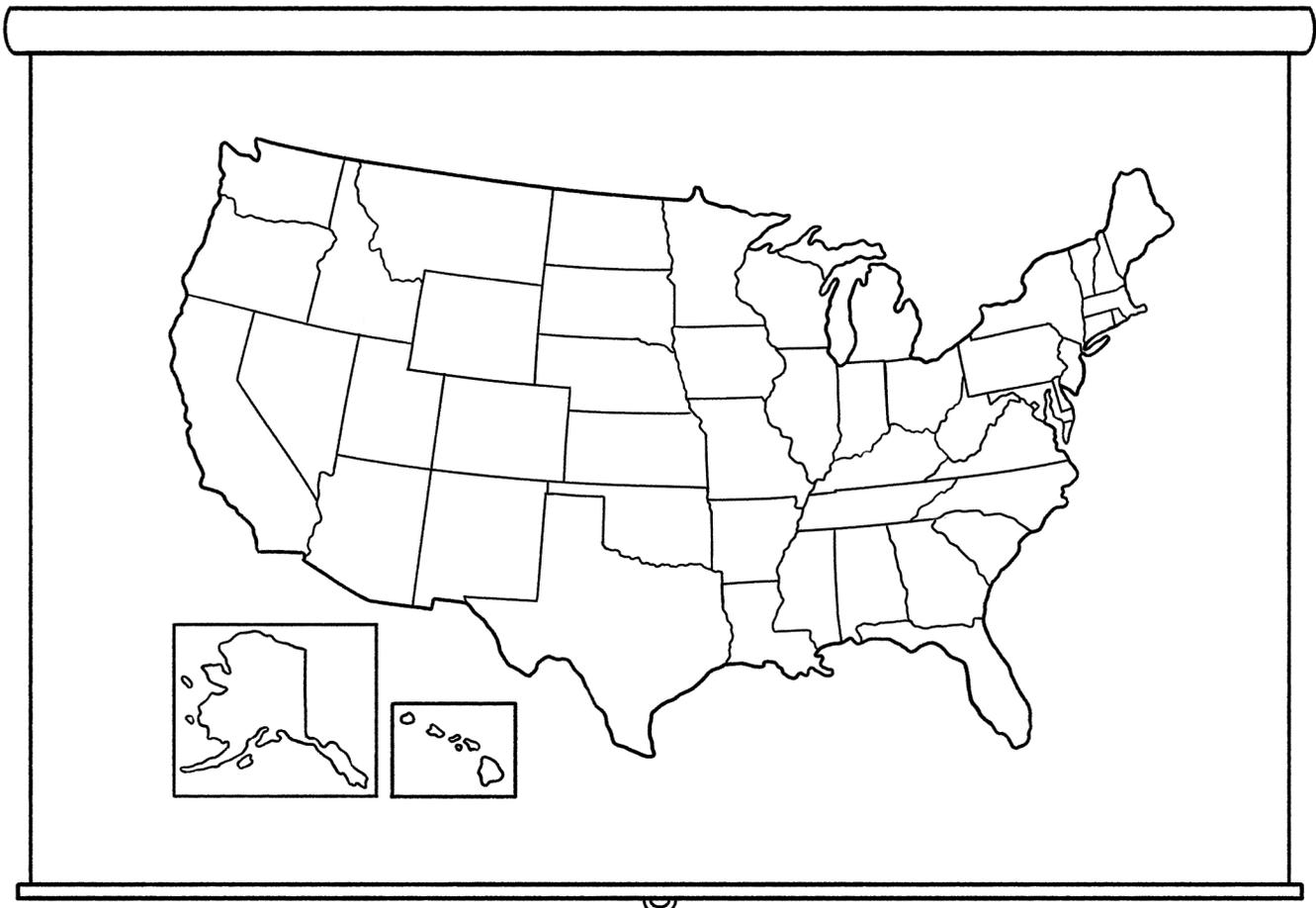


Let's take a look at some very special places where litter does not belong.

Circle the United States of America on planet Earth.

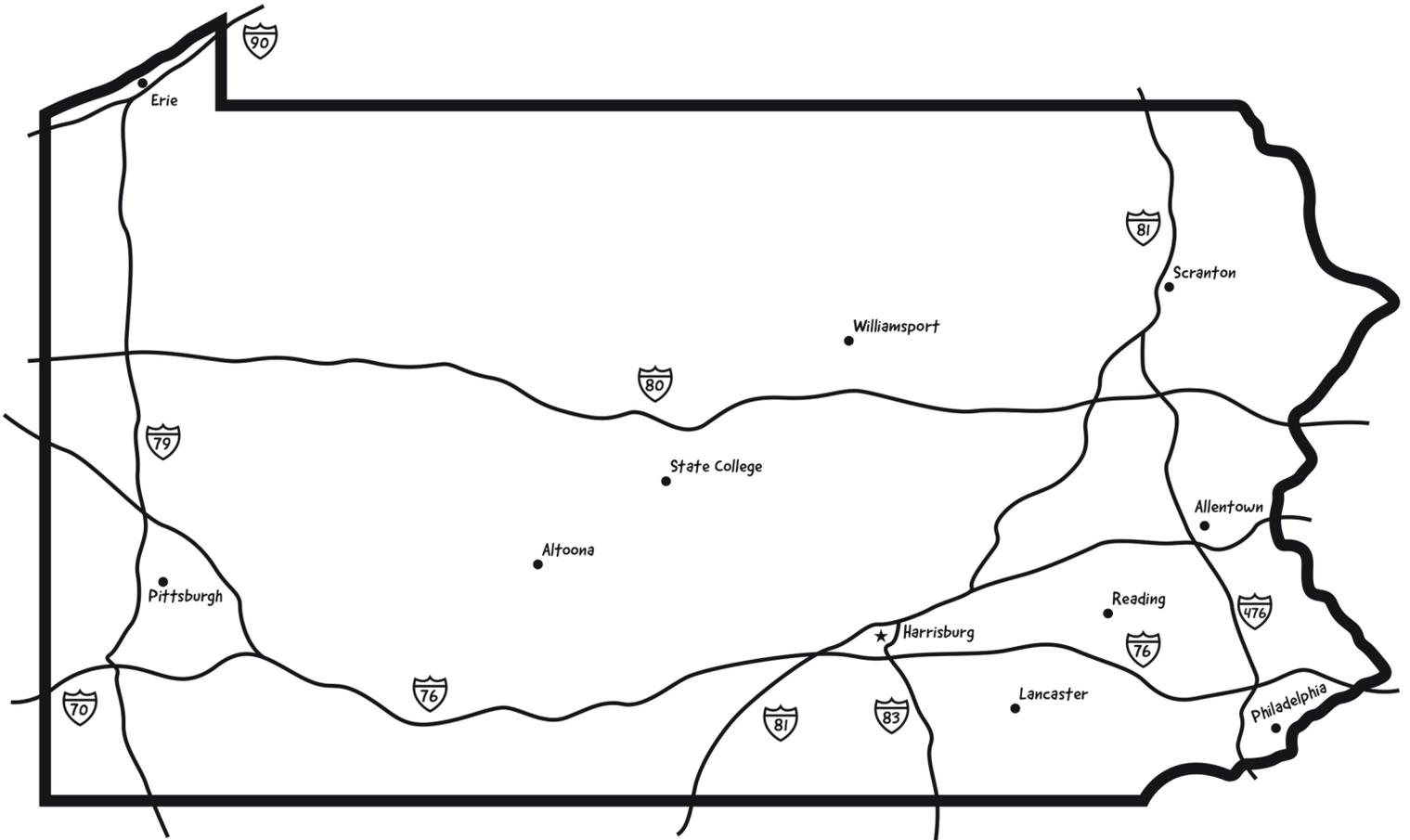


**NOW LOOK CLOSER...**

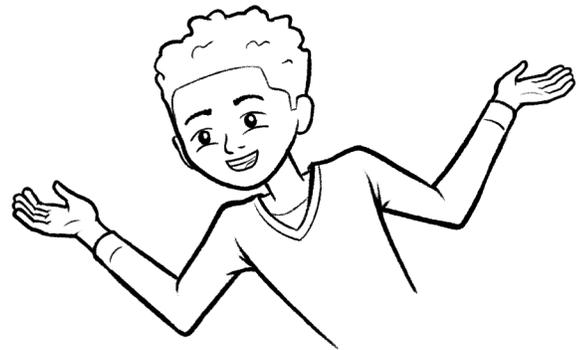


Circle Pennsylvania on this map of the United States of America.

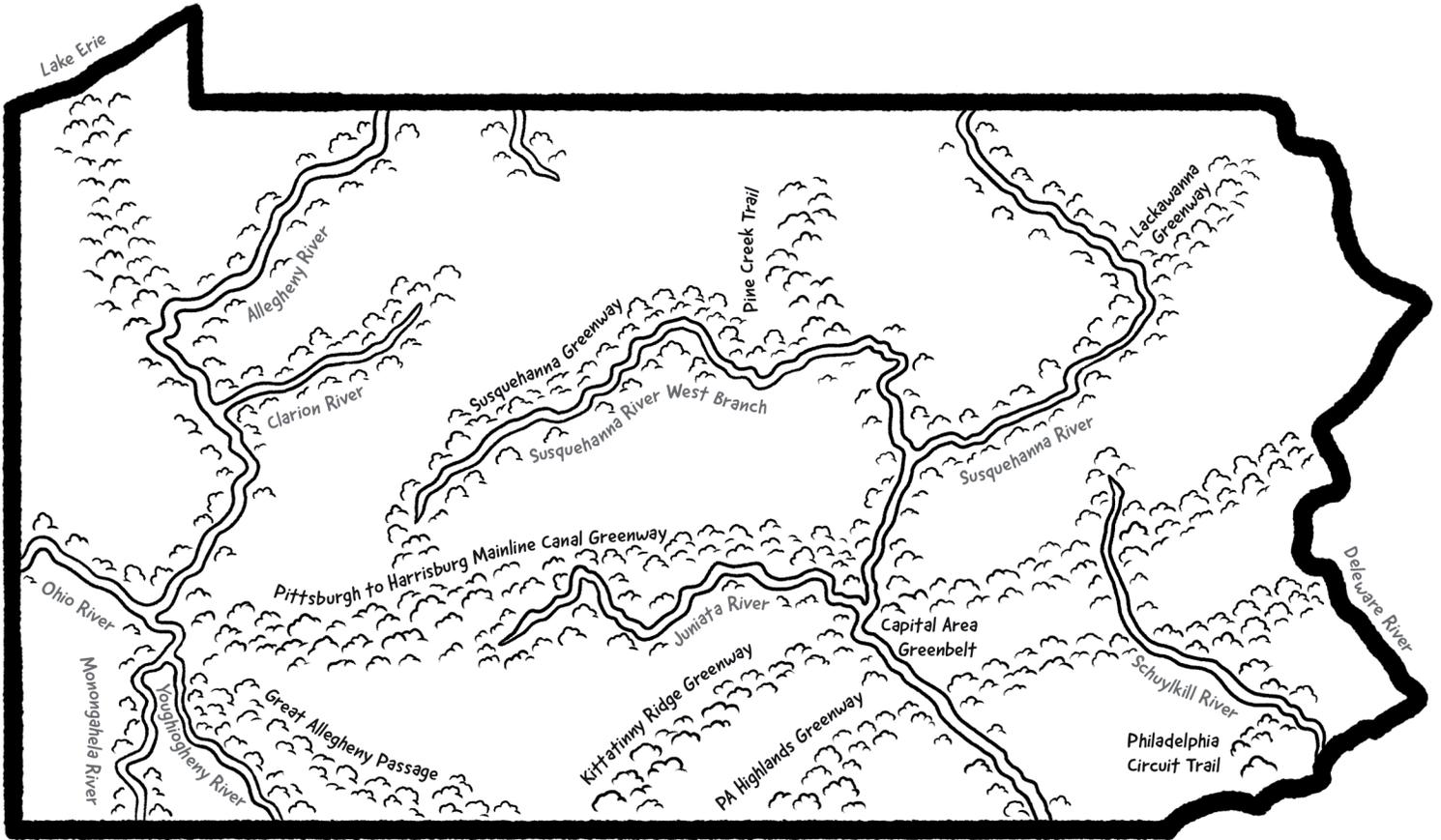
Here is one way to look at Pennsylvania.



What connects the cities, communities and places on this map?



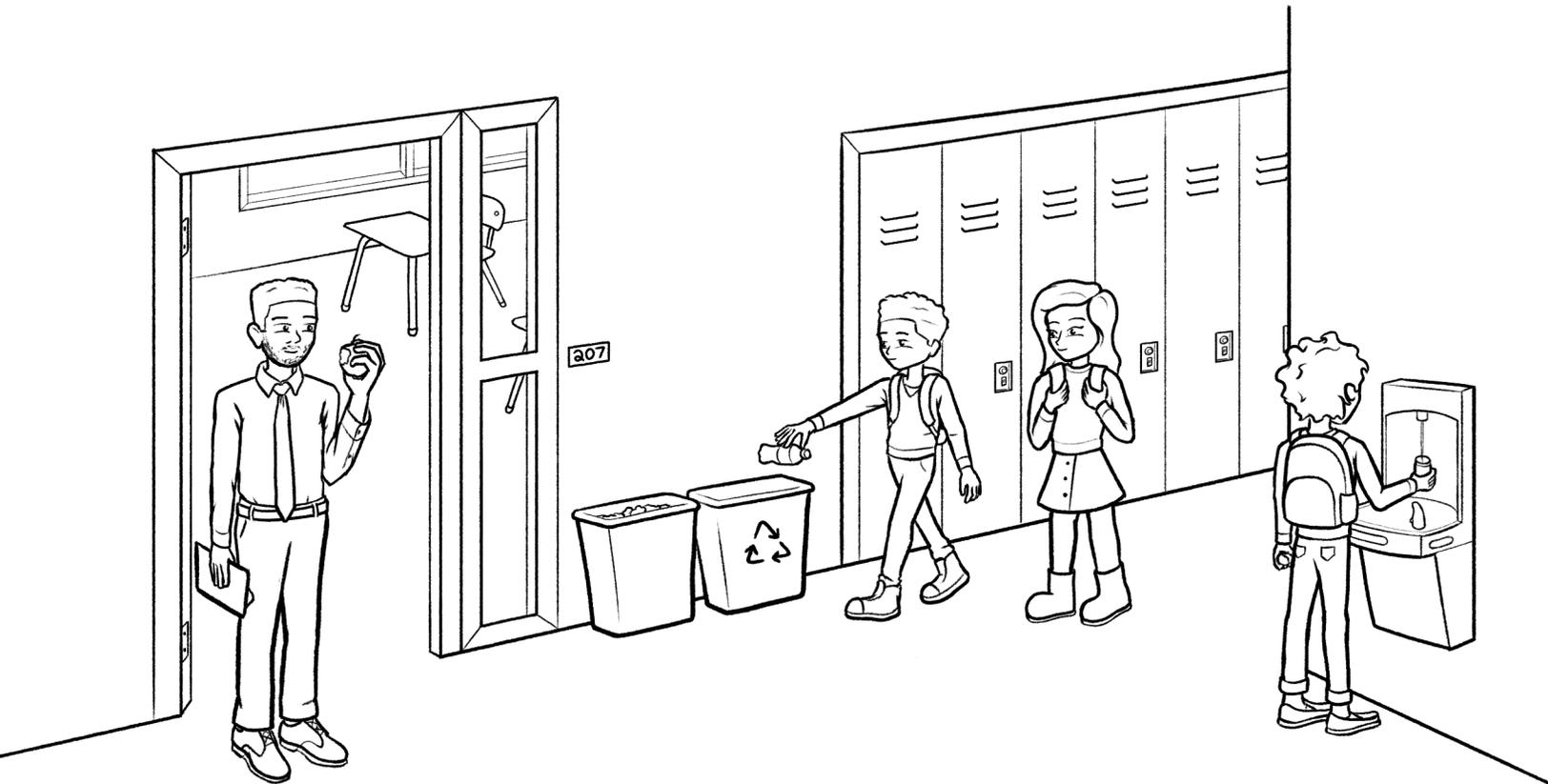
Here's another way.



What natural things help connect the communities and places on this map?



One meaning of the word **“WAY”** is a connecting route which take us from place to place.

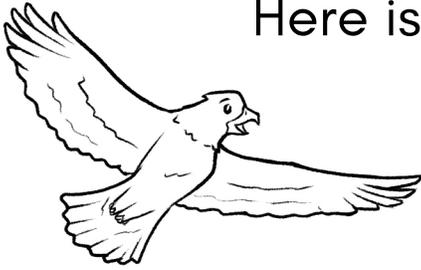


In a school or large building a hall**WAY** connects one room to another.

**Fun Fact:** Using a refillable water bottle can save approximately **156 plastic bottles** per person per year.

Here is a new **"WAY"** word to learn...

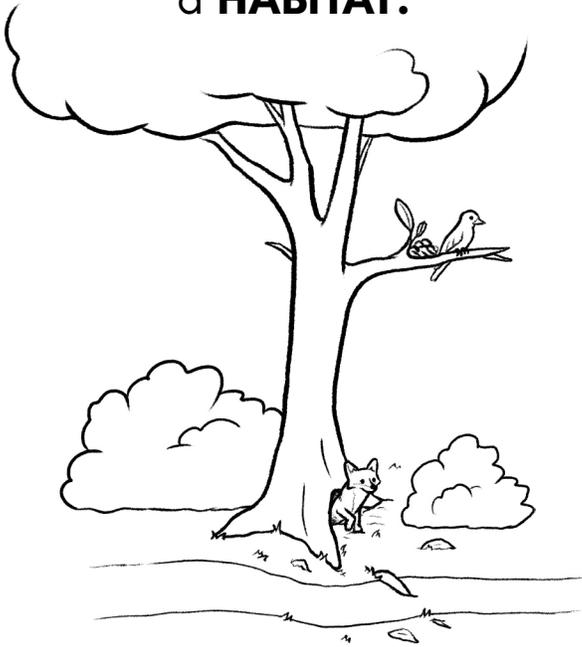
## **GREENWAY**



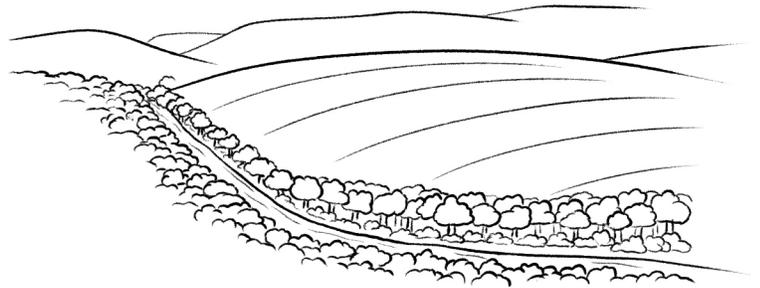
A **GREENWAY** is a long open space which is friendly to the environment. It serves as a route connecting one place to another like a hallway. **GREENWAYS** can be **TRAILS**, **WATERWAYS** or **OPEN SPACES**. They are very special places where litter and trash do not belong.

# GREENWAYS help the environment.

They provide a home for plants and animals called a **HABITAT**.



They serve as **BUFFERS** to help control soil erosion and protect our streams and rivers.



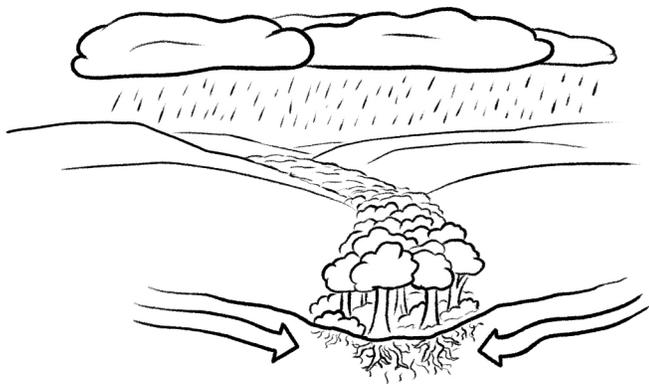
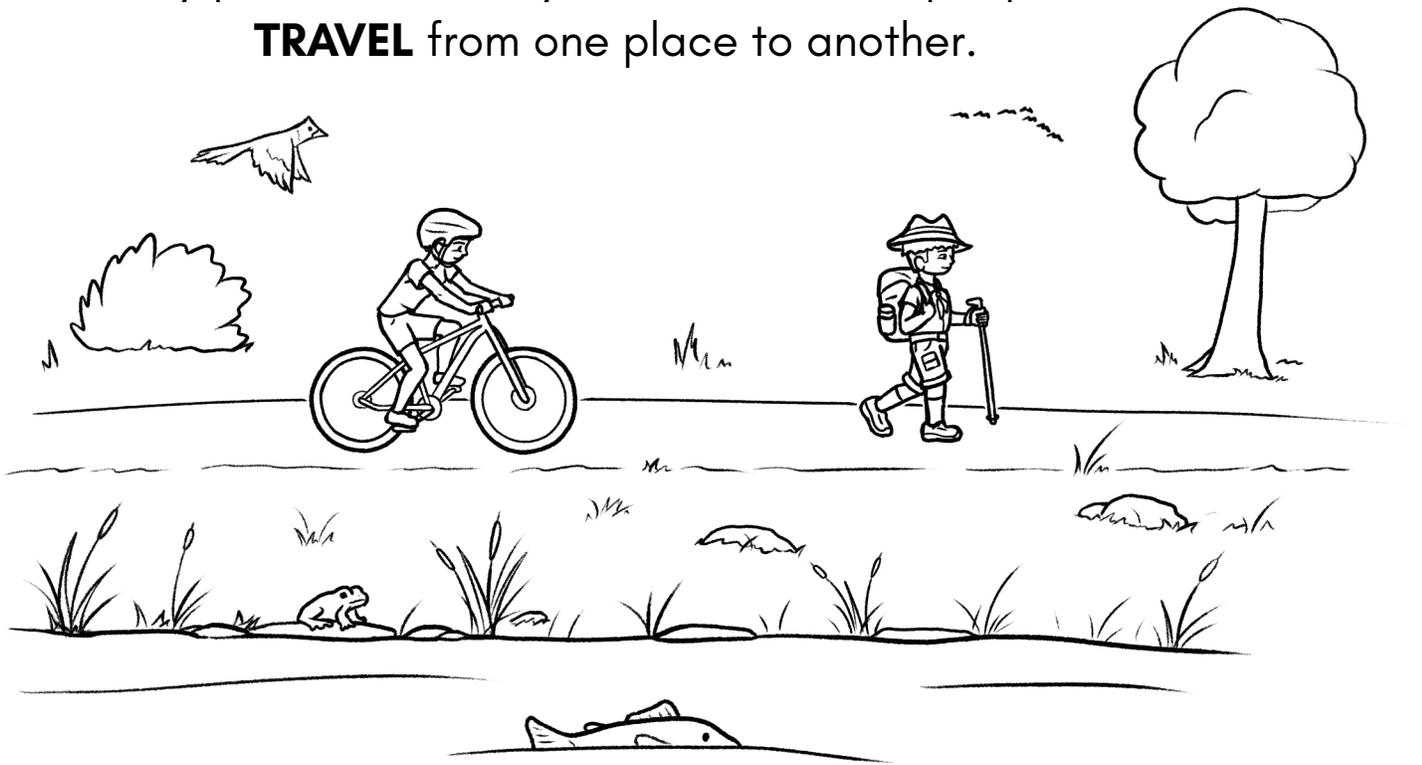
They **FILTER** stormwater to help prevent flooding and keep groundwater clean.



They are a **SOURCE** of water and seed dispersal.



They provide safe ways for animals and people to **TRAVEL** from one place to another.



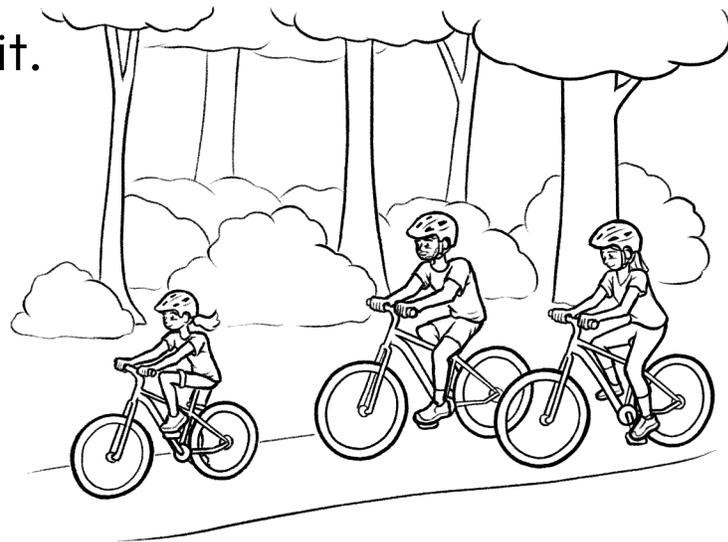
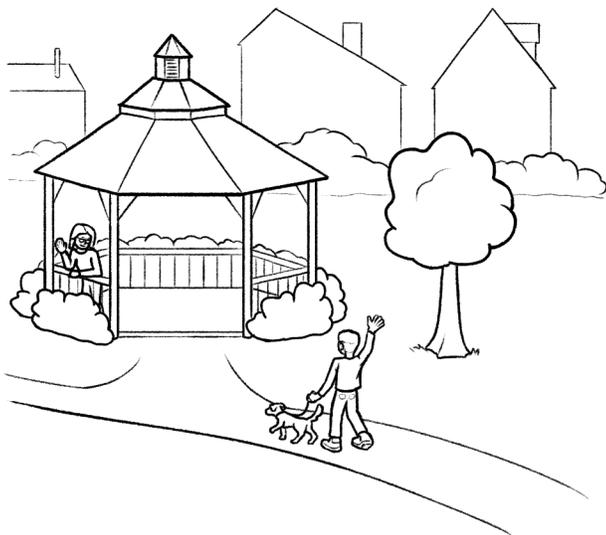
They act like a **SINK** to trap sediments and nutrients that would otherwise be carried away in surface and groundwater.

People don't realize how many animals, plants, and natural activities can be affected by their litter.



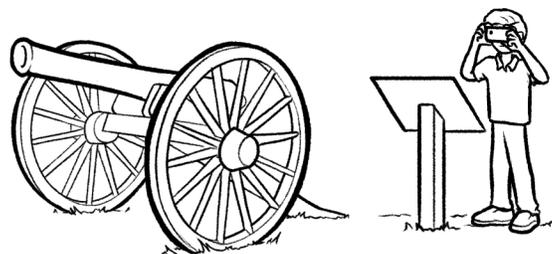
**GREENWAYS** are fun to visit.

THEY ARE...



...places to enjoy family activities

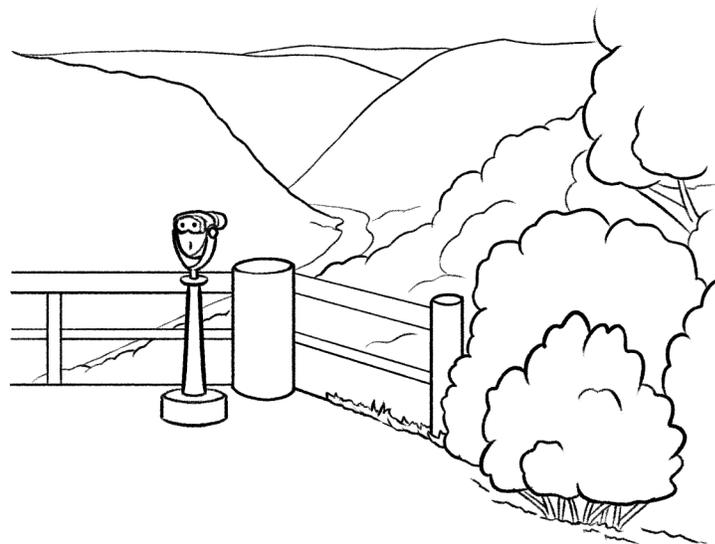
...friendly places to gather



...interesting historic places



...places to learn and explore



...and scenic natural areas.

Now let's take a tour of some **GREENWAYS** in Pennsylvania.  
The little Pennsylvania maps on each page show where the **GREENWAY** is located. Do you live near one?



As we tour these **greenways** see how each of them helps the environment.

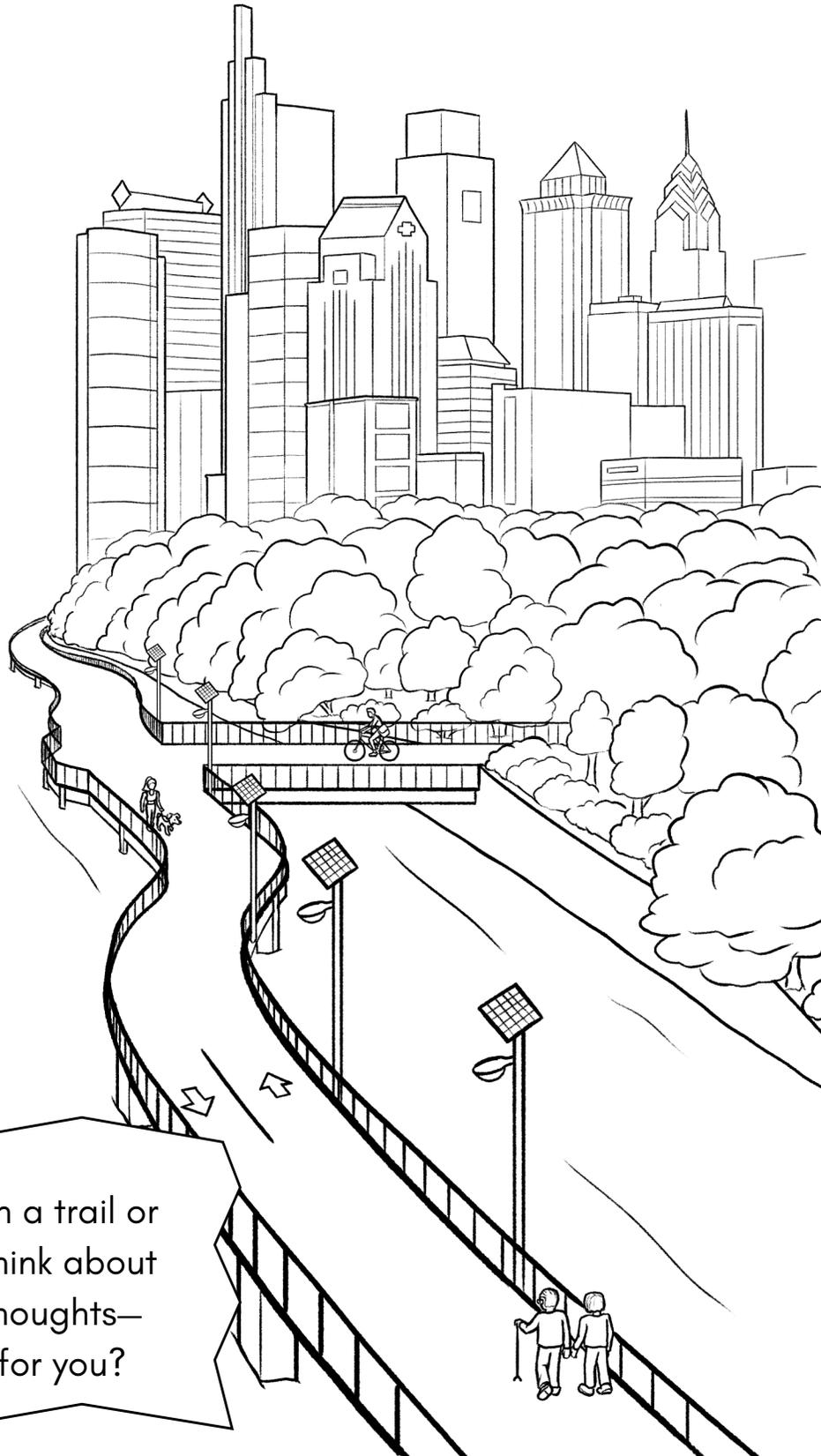
Find out how you can become a volunteer in your community.



## PHILADELPHIA CIRCUIT TRAIL

In cities like **Philadelphia**, there are many buildings and roads, leaving little space for nature. Parks and small wooded areas can feel **isolated** with fewer plants and animals.

But when they are **connected** to **GREENWAYS**, like nature highways, **animals can travel, find food, and build homes. GREENWAYS** help make urban nature healthier and stronger.



### Journal Prompt:

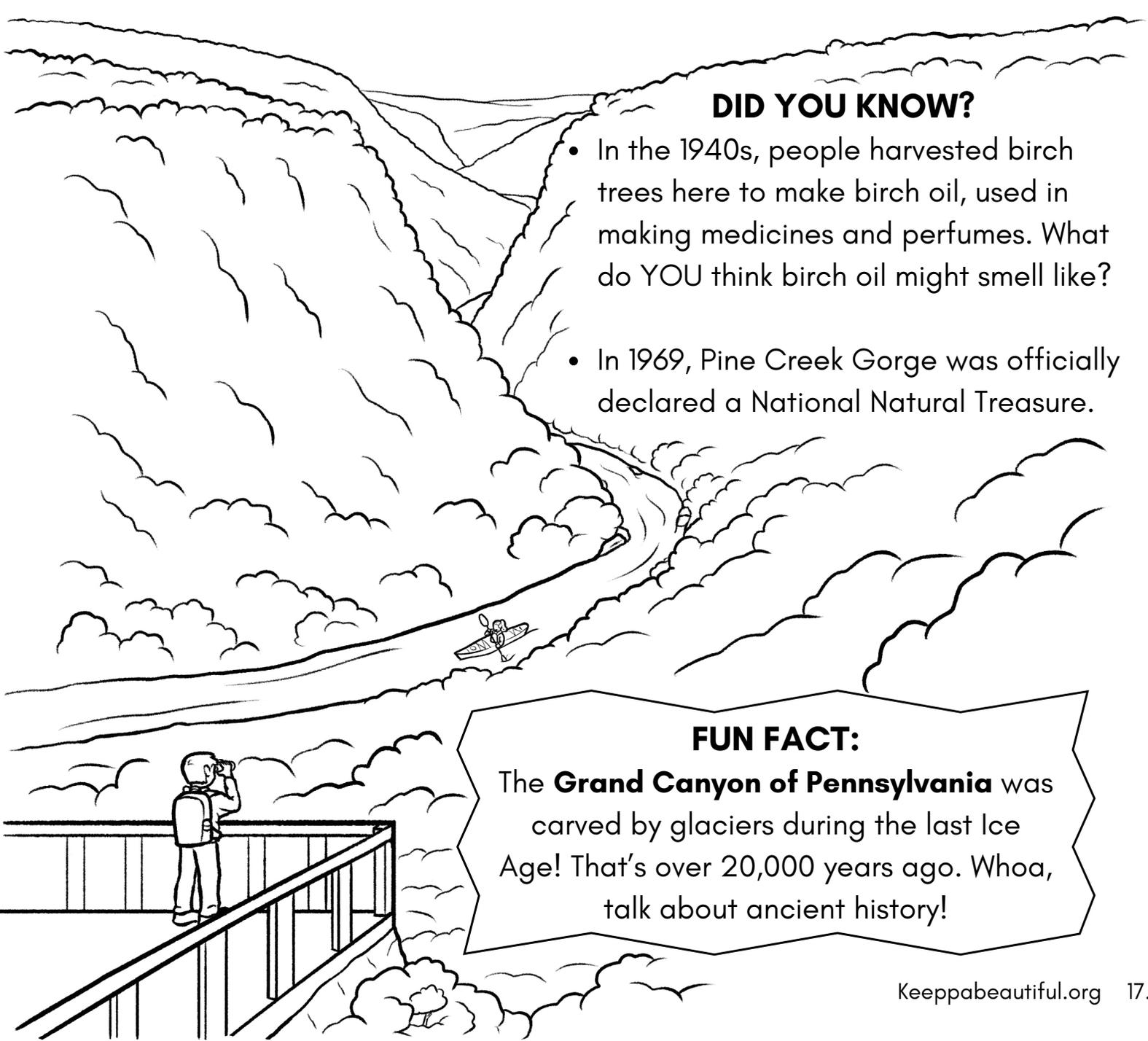
How does spending time on a trail or in nature make you feel? Think about your mood, emotions, or thoughts—does it change anything for you?



## PINE CREEK TRAIL

Welcome to Pine Creek Trail, a 60-mile-long **GREENWAY** connecting Wellsboro in Tioga County and Jersey Shore in Lycoming County. This is no ordinary trail—it's at the bottom of the **Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania**, also known as Pine Creek Gorge!

You can bike, hike, or even ride a horse here while exploring the breathtaking views and wildlife.

A black and white line drawing of a deep canyon. A river flows through the center. On the left, a person stands on a wooden bridge with a railing, looking through binoculars. In the middle of the river, a small boat with a person is visible. The canyon walls are steep and rocky, with some vegetation. The sky is filled with clouds.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- In the 1940s, people harvested birch trees here to make birch oil, used in making medicines and perfumes. What do YOU think birch oil might smell like?
- In 1969, Pine Creek Gorge was officially declared a National Natural Treasure.

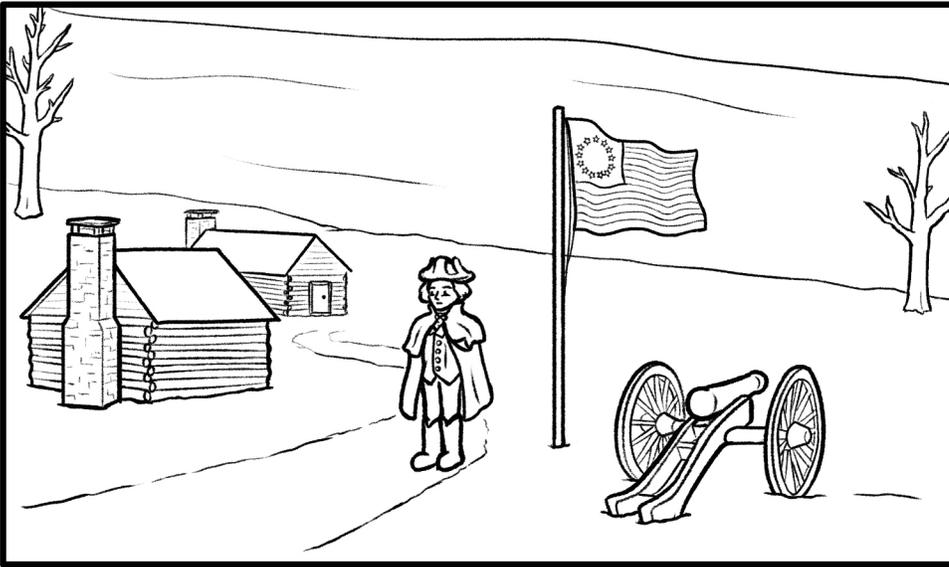
### FUN FACT:

The **Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania** was carved by glaciers during the last Ice Age! That's over 20,000 years ago. Whoa, talk about ancient history!

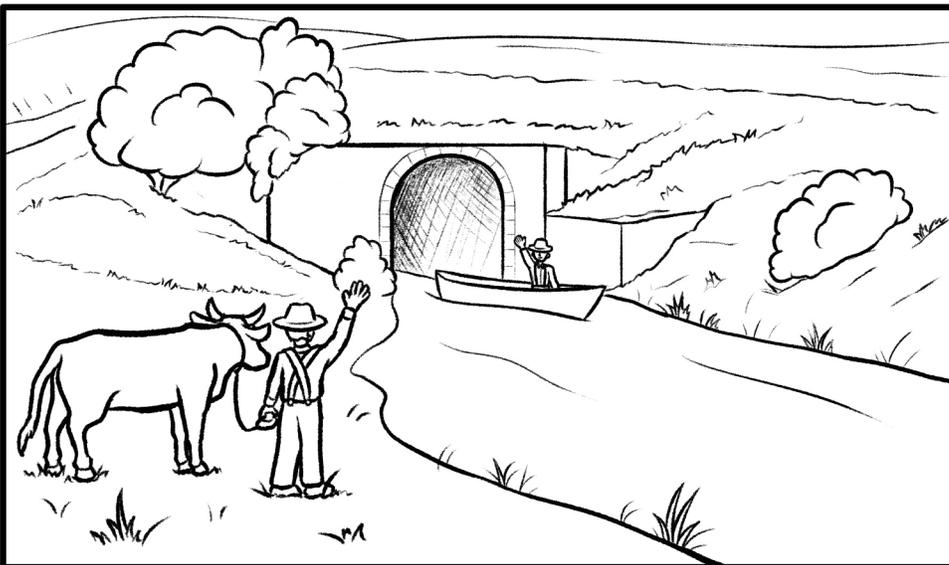


## THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER

Flowing 147 miles until it meets the Delaware River in Philadelphia, the Schuylkill River is more than just a waterway, it's a path through **history!** Known as the "**Revolutionary River,**" it has been important during the **American, Industrial, and Environmental Revolutions.**



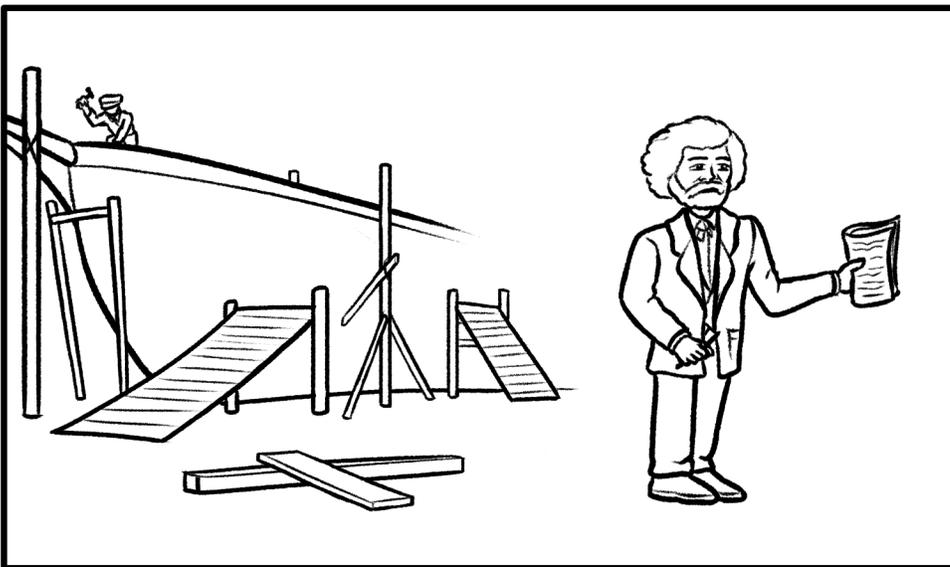
**American Revolution:** Did you know that the Schuylkill River played a role in the fight for **independence?** The Battle of Germantown (1777) took place nearby, and **Valley Forge**, where George Washington's troops camped during a tough winter, is right along its banks.



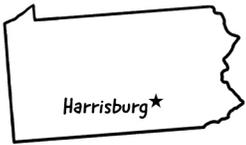
**Industrial Revolution:** The Schuylkill River powered factories and canals that helped America grow. The **first-ever transportation tunnel in the U.S.** was built along the Schuylkill Canal in Auburn, PA (1821-1857). Sadly, industrialization also brought pollution, which affected the river's health for years.



**Environmental Revolution:** The River has been part of important efforts to protect nature. Mill Grove, the first American home of artist and naturalist **John James Audubon**, is near the Schuylkill River. **Indigenous communities** had lived **sustainably** near the river for centuries before industrialization. Today, people work hard to keep it clean and thriving.

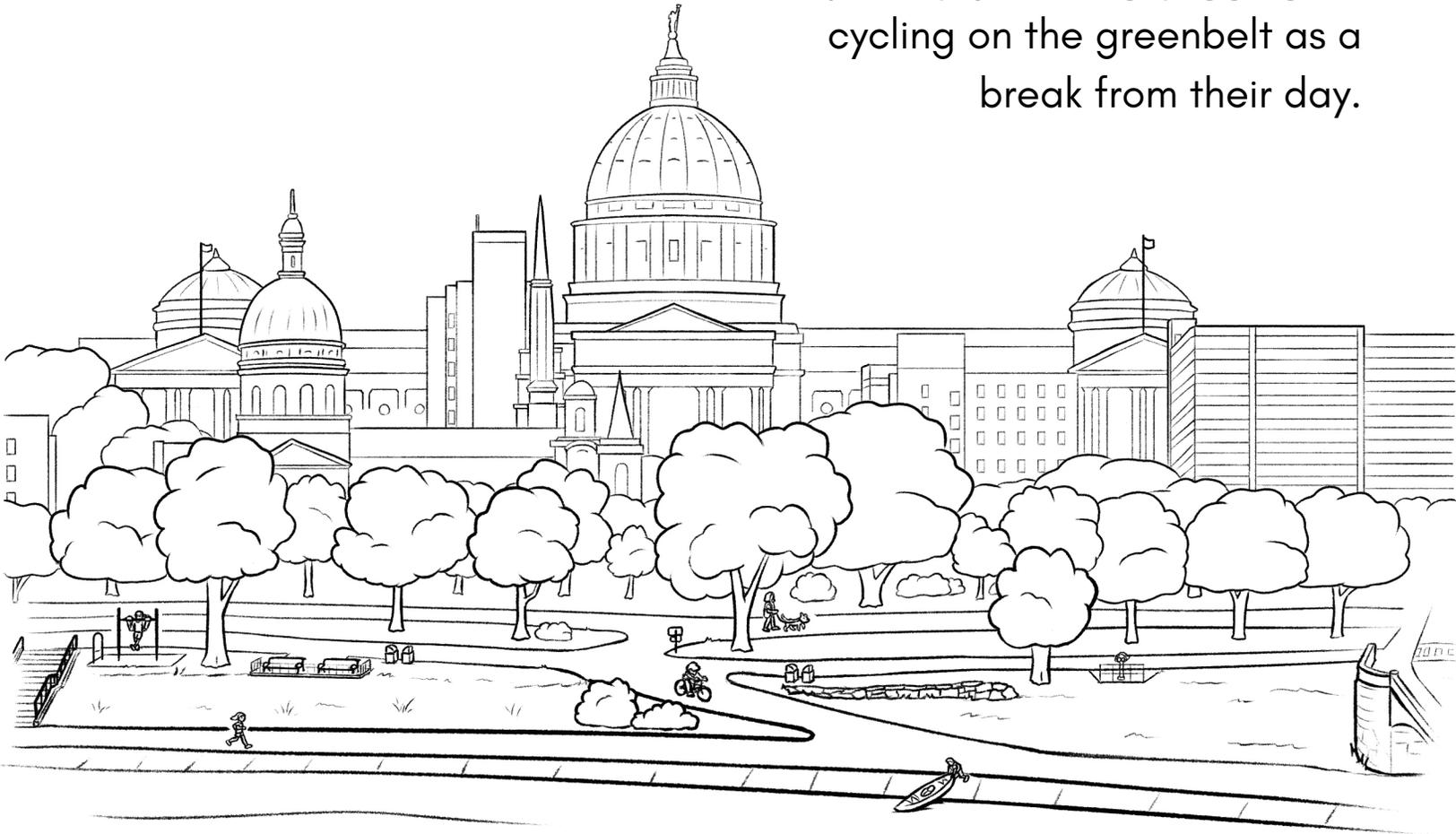


**History Highlight- Abolitionist Movement:** Did you know that **Frederick Douglass**, one of the most famous freedom fighters in American history, once worked near the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia? As a teenager, he worked in a shipyard, learning all about boats and sailing. These skills helped him escape slavery and later become a powerful speaker who fought for **justice and equality**.



**THE CAPITAL AREA GREENBELT** is a 22-mile-long recreational trail that circles **Harrisburg**, our state capital. It travels along a section of the Susquehanna River and provides access to City Island.

People enjoy walking, jogging, or cycling on the greenbelt as a break from their day.



**GREENWAY  
FUNCTION:**

Acts as a **filter**  
and helps flood  
protection

**Keep  
Pennsylvania  
Beautiful**  
— Thank you! —  
[keeppabeautiful.org](http://keeppabeautiful.org)

Adopted by:  
Penbrook Leo Club

The **NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL** is a 4,800-mile-long hiking trail traveling through eight states! It goes from North Dakota to Vermont, with a portion passing through northwestern Pennsylvania.



It also passes through **McConnells Mill State Park** and **Moraine State Park** which holds an annual free regatta to encourage the community to get outdoors.

# How do people enjoy the NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL at Moraine State Park?

By hiking AND playing on the water at the annual Moraine Regatta! This free event celebrates Lake Arthur with kayaking, sailing, yoga, and more. Keeping the park litter-free makes all of these activities safer and more fun for everyone.

## 1. Kayak Rentals:

If the Regatta were to offer **20 double** kayaks (each fits 2 people) and **25 single** kayaks (each fits 1 person), how many people could kayak **in total**?



## 2. Yoga by the Lake:

If a lakeside yoga class has **45 people** and the teacher hands out yoga mats in **stacks of 9**, how many **stacks** of mats does she need?

## 3. Sailing Races:

Two sailboats are racing across Lake Arthur. The blue sailboat sails **5 miles** every **30 minutes**. The red sailboat sails **4 miles** every **20 minutes**. Which boat is moving faster, and how many miles will the **faster boat** travel in **1 hour**?



## 4. Trash Impact:

Suppose volunteers collected **160 plastic bottles** and **128 soda cans** from around the lake. Each **bottle** weighs **1 ounce** and each **can** weighs **1/2 ounce**. How many **pounds** of trash did they collect in total?  
*(Hint: 16 ounces = 1 pound)*



## 5. Why it Matters:

How would sailing, kayaking, and yoga be different if Lake Arthur was full of floating trash? Write one way water sports are better without litter.

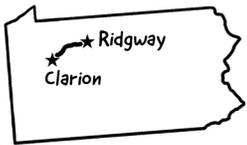
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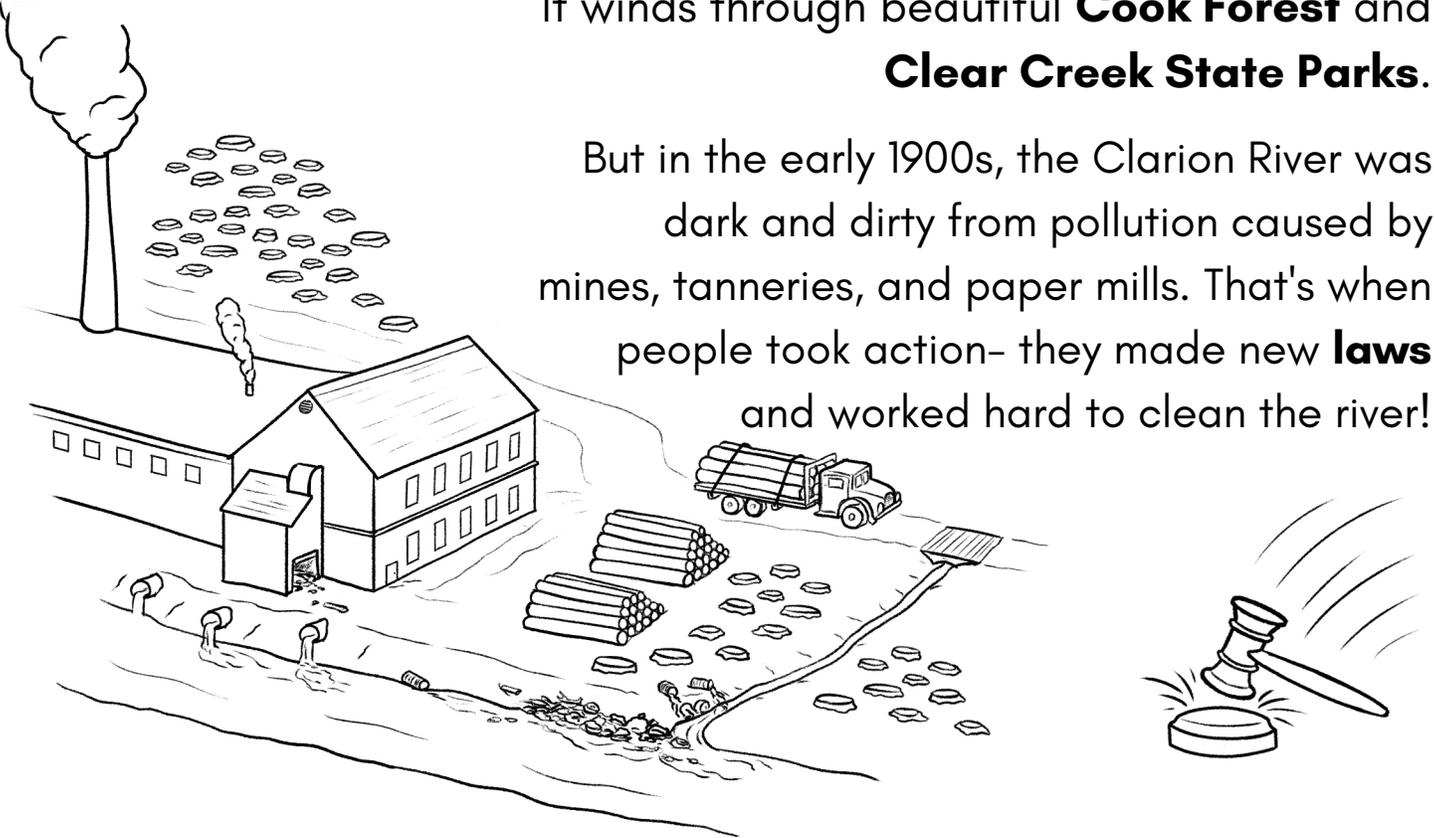
### ANSWERS:

1. 65 people 2. 5 stacks 3. red 12 mph 4. 14 lbs.



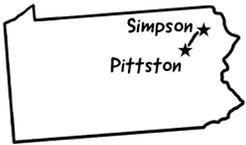
The **CLARION RIVER** in northwestern Pennsylvania serves as a water trail connecting Ridgway to Clarion. It winds through beautiful **Cook Forest** and **Clear Creek State Parks**.

But in the early 1900s, the Clarion River was dark and dirty from pollution caused by mines, tanneries, and paper mills. That's when people took action- they made new **laws** and worked hard to clean the river!

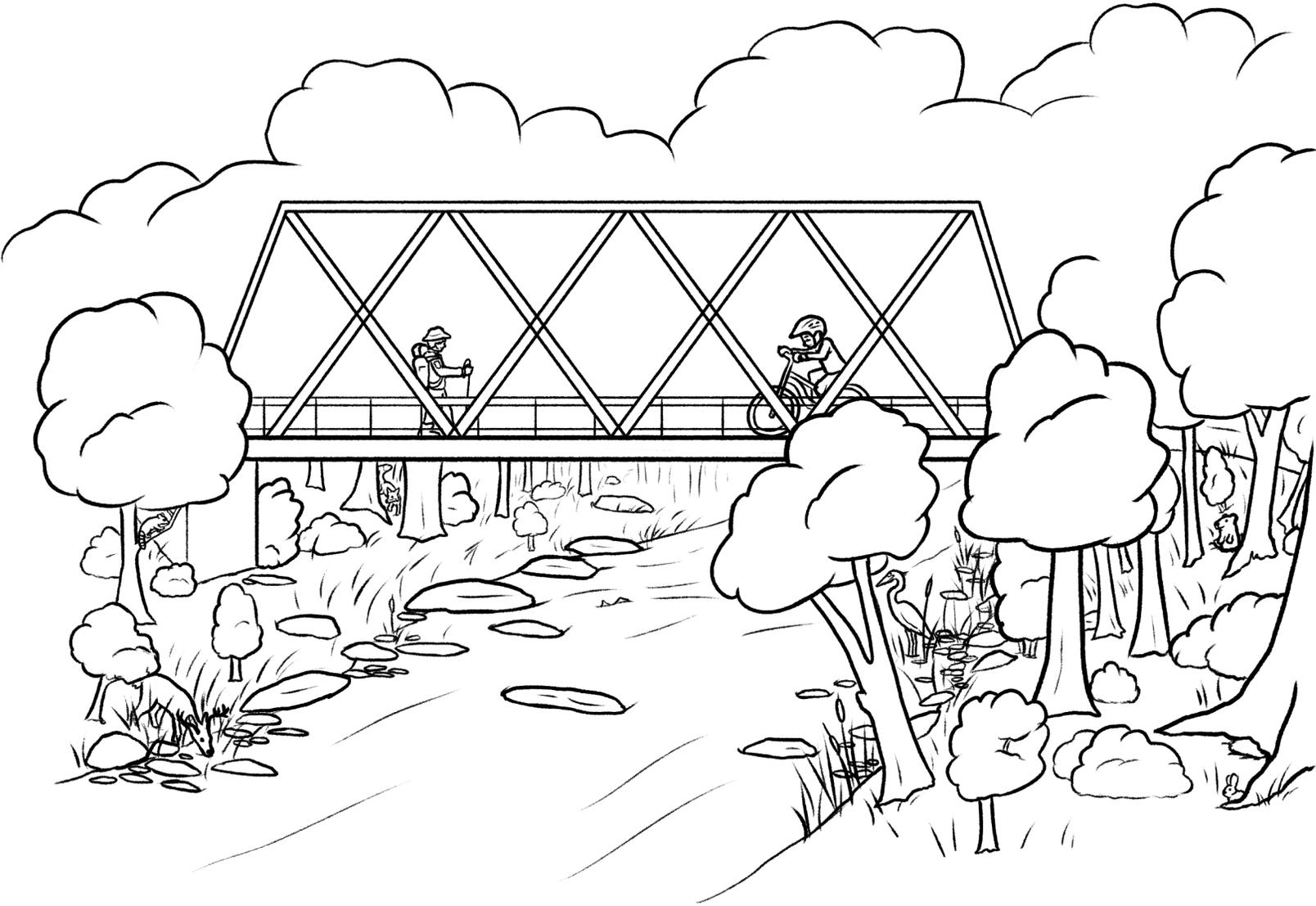


Volunteers worked together to clean the river - some even getting in **canoes** to help clean out the trash! Today, it's a beautiful spot to fish and even home to bald eagles nesting along the river.





The **LACKAWANNA GREENWAY** spans 70 miles. The D&H Rail-Trail was once used by trains that carried coal. Today, it's a peaceful place for biking and hiking! The Greenway is home to animals like deer, foxes, and great blue herons.



Can you spot these native animals enjoying the greenway?  
Great Blue Heron, White tail deer, Red Fox  
Raccoon, Eastern Cottontail Rabbit, Brook Trout, Groundhog

Which of these animals have you seen in the wild?



The **GREAT ALLEGHENY PASSAGE** is a super long trail - about 150 miles! You can hike it, bike it, or even cross-country ski it in the snow! It starts in Pittsburgh and connects all the way to Cumberland, Maryland. From there, it connects with another trail - the C&O Canal Path. That takes you the rest of the way to Washington, D.C.! Together, the two trails make a giant 320-mile adventure!



**Fun Fact:**  
This awesome **GREENWAY** was made by turning old railroad tracks into a smooth trail of crushed limestone.

**GREENWAYS** that are hundreds of miles long are called **MEGAGREENWAYS**. Sometimes they even connect different states!

The **GREAT ALLEGHENY PASSAGE** connects many towns and cities. The money spent by trail users and tourists in these “Trail Towns” helps sustain and grow their economies.



**Activity:** Imagine you're the owner of a business in a Trail Town—what kind of business would you open? Would you start a cozy café for hungry hikers, a bike shop, or a place to rent kayaks? Dream big and get creative!

# Trail Town Business Plan

1. My Business Name:

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2. What We Do: *What does your business sell or provide?*

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3. Who We Help

*Who will come to your business? (hikers, bikers, families, locals, pets, etc.)*

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4. Green Choices

*How will your business protect the trail and environment?*

Recycle

Use renewable energy

Encourage reusable bottles/cups

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Community Impact:

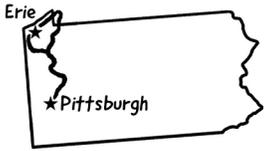
*How will your business help the people who live here?*

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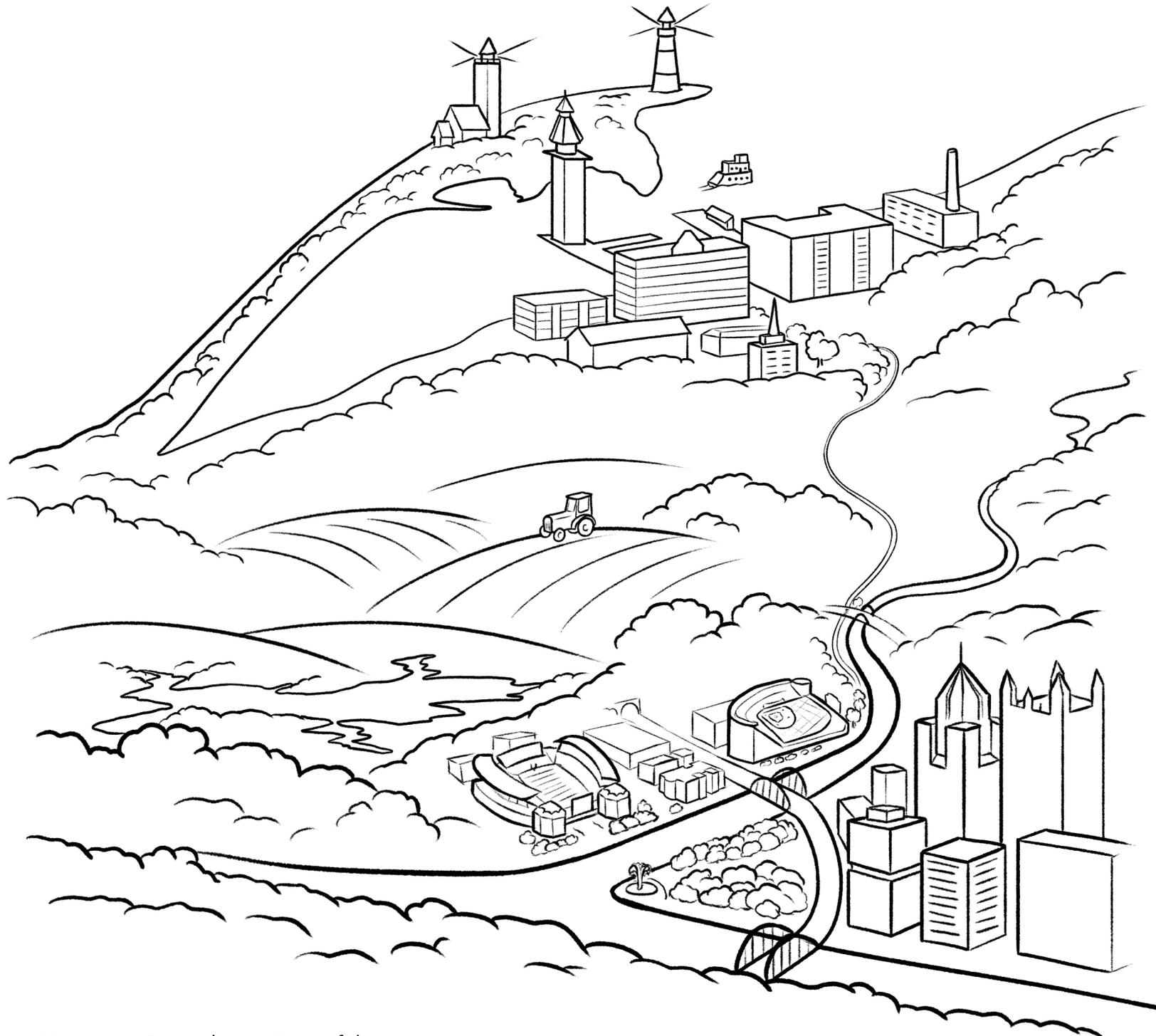
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6. My Logo or Drawing:

*Draw a picture of your business or create a logo here:*



The **ERIE TO PITTSBURGH GREENWAY** is a system of trails and connectors linking Erie to Pittsburgh. It is about 270 miles long! Each trail in the system has unique features. Many historic sites including remnants of the oil industry can be seen on these trails. The Allegheny River Trail even features two dark tunnels you can bike through!

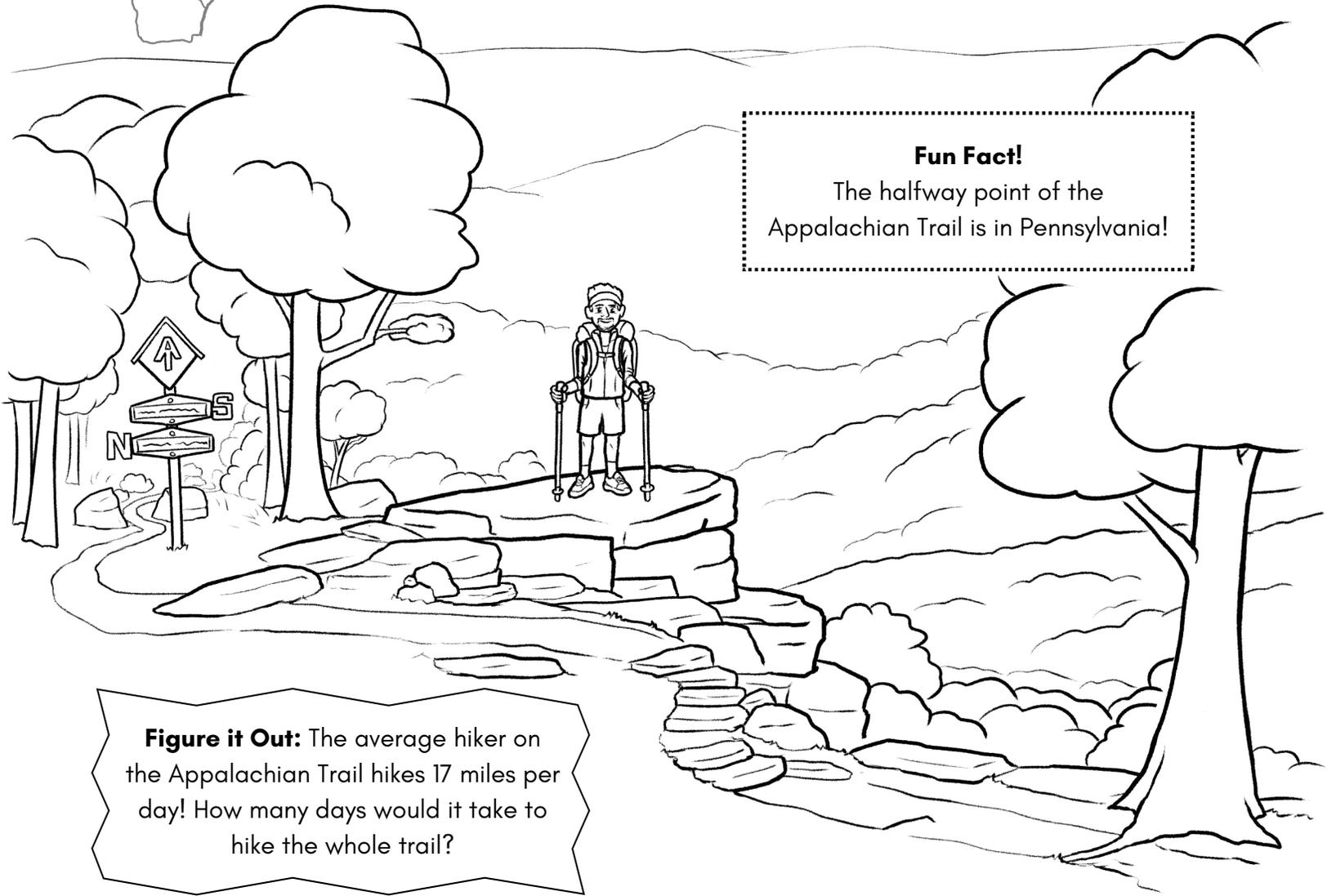




The **APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC HIKING TRAIL** is a National **GREENWAY** that stretches 2,174 miles through 14 states from Maine to Georgia. The Appalachian Trail is one of three National Scenic Trails traveling through Pennsylvania. The others are North Country Trail and Potomac Heritage Trail.

**Fun Fact!**

The halfway point of the Appalachian Trail is in Pennsylvania!



**Figure it Out:** The average hiker on the Appalachian Trail hikes 17 miles per day! How many days would it take to hike the whole trail?

### Trek Against Trash

In 2008, Jordan Price partnered with Keep America Beautiful and hiked the entire 2,174 miles of the Appalachian Trail to help raise awareness of greener lifestyles. The trek took him nearly five months to complete.

# Greenways Game

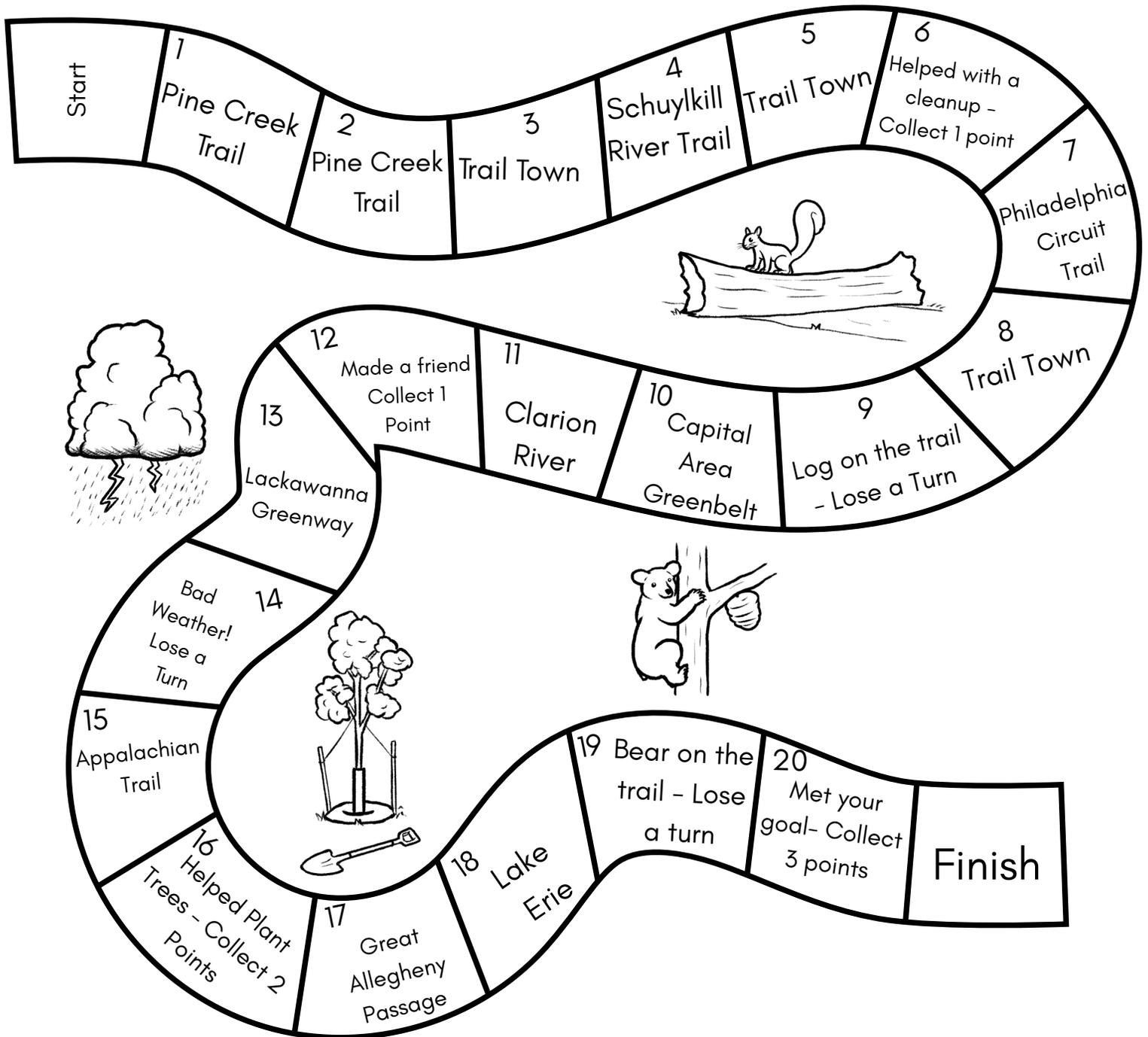
## Instructions:

Grab a die (or dice) and find something to mark your space (like a coin, button, or piece of paper).

## How to Play:

- Take turns rolling the die and move your marker forward that many spaces.
- When you land on a space, answer the question that goes with it (there are 2 questions so both players can get separate questions)
- If you answer correctly, you get a point!

**The player with the most points at the end of the game wins!**



# GREENWAYS Game Questions:

## Space 1: Pine Creek Trail

Q1: What's another name for the Pine Creek Trail?

Q2: What geological event formed the Pine Creek Trail?

## Space 2: Pine Creek Trail

Q1: What tree was used for medicine on the Pine Creek Trail?

Q2: True or False: The Pine Creek Trail was declared a National Natural Treasure?

## Space 3: Trail Town

Q1: True or False: You must clean items before recycling them.

Q2: Which of these items can be composted? meat, coffee grounds, plastic, or milk

## Space 4: Schuylkill River Trail

Q1: What famous abolitionist spent his early years enslaved near the Schuylkill River before escaping to freedom?

Q2: Which revolution brought powered factories and canals to the Schuylkill River, bringing about pollution for years to come?

## Space 5: Trail Town

Q1: What is an open space or corridor that connects different areas, often for recreational or transportation purposes?

Q2: What is a greenway that is hundreds of miles long called?

## Space 6: Helped with a cleanup - Collect one point

### Space 7: Philadelphia Circuit Trail

Q1: True or False: Greenways only connect rural areas.

Q2: Name one benefit of a greenway.

### Space 8: Trail Town

Q1: What is the name for the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism?

Q2: True or False: One function of a greenway is acting as a source for water and seed dispersal?

### Space 9: Lose a Turn

### Space 10: Capital Area Greenbelt

Q1: What is the capital of Pennsylvania?

Q2: What river does the Capital Area Greenbelt follow?

### Space 11: Clarion River

Q1: What led to pollution of the Clarion River in the 1900s?

Q2: What two state parks does the Clarion River wind through?

### Space 12: Made a friend - Collect one point

### Space 13: Lackawanna Greenway

Q1: Which substance was previously carried on the D&H Trail?

Q2: Name two native animals that may be found in the Lackawanna Greenway?

### Space 14: Bad Weather - Lose a Turn

### Space 15: Appalachian Trail

Q1: Where is the start and end states of the trail?

Q2: Which state is the halfway point of the trail located?

### Space 16: Helped plant trees - collect 2 points.

### Space 17: Great Allegheny Passage

Q1: Which two cities does the Great Allegheny Passage connect?

Q2: Which type of rock helps make the trail smooth?

### Space 18: Lake Erie

Q1: What are areas where water covers the ground for part or all of the year called?

Q2: What was installed in Presque Isle State Park and Lake Erie to collect trash from the water?

### Space 19: Bear on the trail - Lose a turn

### Space 20: Met your goal - Collect 3 points

**ANSWERS**  
Space 1 Q1 Pennsylvania Grand Canyon  
Q2 Ice Age  
Space 2 Q1 Birch  
Q2 True  
Space 3 Q1 True  
Q2 coffee grounds  
Space 4: Q1 Frederick Douglass  
Q2 Industrial Revolution  
Space 5 Q1 Greenway  
Q2 Megagreenway  
Space 7 Q1 False  
Q2 Answers may vary see pgs. 12-14  
Space 8 Q1 Habitat  
Q2 True  
Space 10 Q1 Harrisburg  
Q2 Susquehanna River  
Space 11 Q1 mines, tanneries, paper mills (Industrial Revolution)  
Q2 Cook Forest & Clear Creek State Parks  
Space 13 Q1 coal  
Q2 Answers may vary see pg. 24  
Space 15 Q1 Maine to Georgia  
Q2 Pennsylvania  
Space 17 Q1 Pittsburgh to Washington D.C.  
Q2 Limestone  
Space 18 Q1 wetlands  
Q2 Litter booms and floating barriers

# Design Your Own GREENWAY

Think about the greenways you learned about in this book. Now, imagine you could create your own.

GREENWAY Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My greenway connects \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Sketch your greenway below:



Label key features of your GREENWAY such as parks, waterways, scenic views, or trail towns.

What are some benefits of your GREENWAY?

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What animals might be found on your GREENWAY?

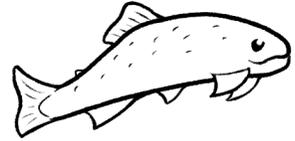
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# Which Pennsylvania GREENWAY Are You?

Take this short quiz to find out which **GREENWAY** matches your personality:



1. What's your favorite thing to do outside?
  - A. Ride my bike fast!
  - B. Go on long hikes and explore nature
  - C. Look for animals, bugs, or fish
  - D. Play in parks or go on city adventures



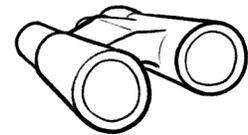
2. What would you pack for a trail trip?
  - A. A helmet, snacks, and my bike!
  - B. Hiking boots, map, and granola bars
  - C. Binoculars, nature journal, and camera
  - D. A backpack with games, snacks, and a speaker



3. What kind of scenery do you like best?
  - A. Rivers and bridges
  - B. Big mountains and forests
  - C. Peaceful creeks and wildlife
  - D. Cool cities with lots to see



4. Your trail motto is:
  - A. "Zoom through and enjoy the view!"
  - B. "Keep climbing, the top is worth it!"
  - C. "Quiet is cool. Let's explore!"
  - D. "So much to do, let's go see it all!"



5. If you found litter on your trail, you would:
  - A. Pick it up quick so I can keep going
  - B. Stop and clean up the area, even if it takes time
  - C. Gather it carefully and make sure wildlife is safe
  - D. Make a game of it with friends to see who can pick up the most



# Your GREENWAY Personality

Now add up your answers to see which trail fits your personality best:

## **Mostly A's** – You're the Great Allegheny Passage!

You're all about action and adventure. You love biking and moving fast through beautiful places. Just like the GAP, you're fun and full of energy!

## **Mostly B's** – You're the Appalachian Trail!

You're strong, brave, and love a challenge. You don't mind hard work and you enjoy the peace of deep forests. You're a true nature lover!

## **Mostly C's** – You're the Pine Creek Trail!

You're calm, curious, and love wildlife. You enjoy quiet places and taking your time. Like this trail, you're perfect for a peaceful escape.

## **Mostly D's** – You're the Philadelphia Circuit Trail!

You're outgoing and love being where the action is. You enjoy mixing nature with city fun. You're always ready for a new adventure with friends!

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## **Here's what YOU can do...**

- Research GREENWAYS in your community.
- Adopt a GREENWAY in your community and keep it litter free.
- Build a model of a GREENWAY and share it with your family and friends.
- LEAVE NO TRACE.

# Young People Taking Action to Protect the GREENWAYS They Care About



CJ, a **Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Young Ambassador** from Delaware County, led a nature walk through Little Crum Creek Park, teaching others how to identify native and invasive species. They also guided a hands-on water testing activity, helping participants discover tiny creek creatures that show how healthy the water is. CJ later spoke at a national conference in Washington, D.C., where they sat on a panel with important leaders and shared how kids everywhere can work together to make the world a better place. As a high school senior, they continued their work by conducting a stream study to help protect the Delaware River and interned at Willistown Conservation Trust where they conducted water sampling to assess the water quality of Little Crum Creek.

Emily, a student at York Adams Academy in York County, used the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful **Litter Free School Zone program** as her senior project. Emily coordinated her peers to clean up a stream that runs into the river by the York Rail Trail. The students collected eight bags of trash, two tires, and three bulky items during the cleanup. Part of Emily's project plan was to pass the baton to the next student who will run the program and cleanup the following year, ensuring long-term stewardship of the school grounds and surrounding area.

Every year, students from all across Pennsylvania are invited to share their big ideas about keeping our world clean by participating in the **Litter Hawk Youth Award program**. Through art, writing, or video, kids in kindergarten through 6th grade show how much they care about stopping litter and protecting trails, parks and creeks. The most creative and thoughtful projects are chosen for a special celebration at the Pennsylvania State Capitol Building in Harrisburg! There, the winners meet important leaders, receive certificates, and are honored for their amazing work.



# Keep PA Beautiful

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful would like to extend a special note of thanks to the various artists, educators and illustrators that contributed to the original PA CleanWays' Open Your Eyes to Litter series. Over one million copies of the original series were distributed to schools throughout Pennsylvania over the years and these booklets were instrumental in educating Pennsylvania's youth about litter, recycling and keeping our communities clean.

The original series was the foundation for this new Open Your Eyes to Litter series and when appropriate, the original text and illustrations were maintained or adapted. Working with Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation and Illustrator Brady Mock, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful has updated the series to account for the changing environment, new environmental education standards and new types of litter.

**A teachers guide, including PA State Academic Standards addressed, is available online at [keppabeautiful.org/Programs/Education/Open Your Eyes to Litter](http://keppabeautiful.org/Programs/Education/Open%20Your%20Eyes%20to%20Litter).**

This book was created with funding from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.



Pennsylvania  
**Department of Conservation  
& Natural Resources**

This book was updated with funding from the PA Department of Environmental Protection



Pennsylvania  
**Department of  
Environmental Protection**

### **Special Thanks to Our Design Team:**

Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, revisions and updates  
Brady Mock, illustration  
Jackson Graphics, original illustration and design

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Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is a nonprofit whose mission is empowering Pennsylvanians to keep our communities clean and beautiful. For more information visit [keppabeautiful.org](http://keppabeautiful.org), email [info@keppabeautiful.org](mailto:info@keppabeautiful.org) or call 724.836.4121.